

Somerset County Opioid United Team (SCOUT)

The purpose of the Somerset County Opioid United Team is to address the opioid and other drug epidemic in order to prevent overdose deaths and stop the spread of the drug epidemic in the community through prevention, outreach, education, enforcement, intervention, and treatment/recovery.

The mission of the Somerset County Opioid United Team is to develop a unified local strategy in Somerset County where individuals and families feel safe, secure, and supported through a system of care that emphasizes prevention, treatment, and recovery process.

I. Goals

Goal 1: To Reduce the incidence and prevalence of substance use and overdoses in the Somerset County by empowering residents to live healthy lifestyles free of alcohol and drugs.

Objective 1. Lack of awareness of Opioid problem within the county.

Strategy:

- Implement the Not My Child Community Outreach, Awareness, and Prevention model. Teach the Teacher.

Objective 2. Access To Medication Assisted Treatment

Strategy:

- Expand availability of Vivatrol and Suboxone in Somerset County.

Objective 3. Affordability Of Care For Uninsured or Underinsured

Strategy:

- Provider will be paid for uninsured

Objective 4. Infrastructure Development

Strategy:

- Hire positions associated with LAA.
- Educate public on role of LAA

Goal 2: Expand capacity of private providers to deliver ambulatory treatment for substance use disorders to Somerset County residents.

Objective 1. Access To Care

Strategy:

- Expanded services/hours by ESPS

Objective 2. Underutilization of Adolescent Services

Strategy:

- Peer support specialist to transport & case management services to adolescent population.

Objective 3. Recidivism/Relapse Within Jail Population

Strategy:

- Level 1 treatment program at Somerset County Detention Center.
- Availability of Vivatrol injection prior to release.

Goal 3: Reduce the incidence and prevalence of alcohol, opioid and other drug overdoses in the county.

Objective 1: Low Perception Of Harm

Strategy:

- Educate public on dangers of opioid use and overdose potential.

Objective 2: Availability And Access To Prescription Medications

Strategy:

- Educate prescribers on PDMP.
- Increase utilization of Drug Take Back Boxes.

Objective 3 : Access To Narcan To Reverse Overdose

Strategy:

- Deliver Narcan certification throughout the community.
- Provide medication at no cost for certificate holders.
- Offer weekly Narcan drop-in training at Recovery and Re-entry Center.

Goal 4: Reduce the prevalence and incidence of underage and binge drinking in Somerset County.

Objective 1: Access And Availability Of Alcohol

Strategy:

- Increase retail sales compliance regarding sale of alcohol to minors.

Goal 5: Reduce Incidence of Marijuana Use Among High Risk Populations/Especially Adolescents and Young Adults

Objective 1: Decriminalization of marijuana is perceived as declaration that marijuana is harmless.

- Develop and implement comprehensive media campaign that targets high risk populations (teens & young adults, family history of addiction, mental health diagnosis, pregnant women)

Goal 6: Create a safe environment in the community where individuals in recovery can continue to address their recovery needs.

Objective 1: Addiction Is A Chronic Disease That Requires Engagement In Sober Support Systems To Prevent Relapse.

- Peer Support Services
- Recovery Housing
- Provide comprehensive recovery and re-entry support services for consumers and their families at recovery center in Somerset County.

II. Organizational Structure

Somerset County's Emergency Services Director and Somerset County Health Department Health Officer will serve as the Co-Chairs.

Members shall include:

- Somerset County Commissioners;
- Local Somerset County Law Enforcement agencies such as Sheriff, Crisfield Police, Princess Anne Police, MD State Police
- Somerset County Department of Social Services;
- Somerset County Detention Center
- Somerset County State's Attorney;
- Somerset County EMS
- Somerset County of Parole and Probation
- The Somerset County Supervisor for the Department of Juvenile Services or designee;
- The Director of Somerset County Local Behavioral Health Authority
- The Somerset County Health Departments Local Addiction Authority Supervisor
- The Somerset County Health Department's Public Information Officer
- The Somerset County Health Department's Prevention Coordinator
- Somerset County Board of Education, UMES School of Pharmacy
- Local Medical providers
- Local Somerset County Treatment Providers
- Stakeholder State Agencies, such as MEMA
- Community Faith Based

